AODA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING February 17, 2009 Minutes

PRESENT: Harlow Bielefedt, Dennis Williams, Lee Wipfli, Susie Austin, Jim Pearson, Rose Barton, Susan Andrews, Bill Hinsenkamp, Kathleen Books.

Meeting called to order at 10:05 a.m.

Introduction of members and guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes approved as read from the January 17, 2009 meeting.

PRESENTATION

Scott Stokes from the Aids Resource Center of Wisconsin spoke about the clean needle exchange program. It is a harm reduction model and addresses public health issues in regards to decreasing infectious diseases. He gave an overview of the program which first began in the mid 1990's in Milwaukee and as gone on to 11 other cities in Wisconsin. The Center hopes to add a clean needle exchange program in Waukesha County by April of this year. Scott mentioned that there has been a 66% reduction in reported infectious diseases since the programs began. It is anonymous and free. The Center has different ways to exchange needles. A person can go to a designated site, there are roving vans that people can go to manned by Aids Resource Center staff and volunteers, or in some cases they can make a delivery. There is a 1 for 1 plus plan used. You get two needles for every one you bring in up to 5 needles. If there is more then 5 needles, its one for one after the 5th needle. The staff can make referrals for treatment, shelter and food, and they can assist in vaccinations for Hepatitis. Clean needle exchange programs do not increase crime or the amount of people choosing to use needles. There has been a reduction in the reported number of positive HIV cases and they increase the amount of people seeking treatment. The Milwaukee program sees about 5 to 6 dozen Waukesha County residents. Last year 750,000 needles were exchanged at the 11 sites. The center gets its funding mostly from private donors and fundraising. Very little is from State funding and there is a Federal ban on funding needle exchange programs. Discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS

Susan Andrews states that Mike DeMares wants the committee to request on their unmet needs list funding the frozen AODA position for the Re Entry Center and if they choose to not open the position to at least not eliminate the position. Susie brought up a concern about men drinking before going to the drop in shelter at St. Matthias and/or drinking at the shelter. She was encouraged by the committee to call and speak to someone at Hebron House about the issue.

Dennis stated that the unmet needs for this year will be increasing resources for opiate addicts and their families, increase all types of treatment for adolescents, and suggests an ambulatory detox.

CITIZEN MEMBER REPORT

No Report.

COUNTY AODA STAFF LIAISON REPORT

Susan Andrews discussed how well the training at the Mental Health Center went, and that the county is looking into restructuring the suboxone program. She had no details at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Susie Austin made a motion, seconded by Kathleen Books to adjourn the meeting. The motion was voted on and passed.

Recorded by Dawn Cagney.